



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Confirmation No. 5291**
Mie TAKAHASHI et al. : Attorney Docket No. 2001_1464A
Serial No. 09/937,730 : Group Art Unit 1641
Filed January 8, 2002 : Examiner Gary W. Counts
CHROMATOGRAPHY MEDIUM AND : **Mail Stop: RCE**
ITS MANUFACTURING METHOD

RESPONSE FILED CONCURRENTLY WITH RCE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

Introduction

This response is filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). It is noted that the filing of this RCE is intended to withdraw this application from the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, where the application is currently awaiting a decision by the Board. An RCE has been filed due to an intervening opinion from the Supreme Court of the United States which affected some of the previously presented arguments. In order to maintain a complete and up-to-date record, Applicants withdraw the case from appeal and reopen prosecution for the Examiner's reconsideration in view of the new case law.

Accordingly, Applicants submit the following remarks in support of the patentability of the presently claimed invention over the disclosures of the references relied upon by the Examiner in rejecting the claims. Further and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of these remarks.